

**CAPSTONE INDUSTRY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
November 8, 2006**

The Alaskan Capstone Industry Council met at the Alaska DOT/PF Building on November 8, 2006, at 8:00 am.

The following agenda items were presented:

**0800 – 0945 Information Sharing**

Opening	Sue Gardner
Operational Status Update	Ray Collins
Technical Status Update	Walter Combs
High Site Construction	Walter Combs

**0945 – 1000 Industry Feedback (Round Table)**

**Information Sharing**

**Opening:**

Sue Gardner, Capstone Program Manager, opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance. The majority of Industry Council members were absent from the meeting due to commitments in Palm Springs with either the AOPA Conference or the AACA Board Meeting. Sue reported that she had early morning telephone discussions with those members to brief them on the current status of the program.

Sue spent a great deal of time during the previous month in Washington, D.C., working with Flight Standards, Finance, and Air Traffic on the JRC process trying to get a commitment. . Sue had an opportunity to brief Gene Juba, Head of Finance, Air Traffic Organization, (ATO-F). This is part of the process to get to the Executive Council and then on to the Joint Resources Council, which makes the final investment decision.

On October 31, 2006, ATCA recognized Safe Flight 21 for the work that office has done over the last couple of years to bring ADS-B to the National Airspace System. Paul Fontaine accepted this award alongside Sue. A duplicate award will be made. One will reside with Safe Flight 21 and the other will be displayed at the AK Regional Office. Sue relayed that the representatives at ATCA wanted her to pass along to both the industry partners and the FAA partners what this award meant to them and the importance of the work conducted here in Alaska. ATCA felt that this award was their best opportunity to say, "Thank you," from the Air Traffic Controllers Association.

Capstone also received the Medallion Award. Sue followed that up, along with the staff at Medallion, with an exhibit at the FAA Administrator's International Safety Symposium in Chantilly, Virginia. The symposium was attended by people from all over the world,

and was a great opportunity for those in the Capstone Program to be able to interface with the leaders from the attending foreign delegations.

There has not been an announcement on the Regional Administrator; however, John Duncan has been chosen for AFS-SW. Sue announced new staff members for the Capstone office. (Stacy Portlock - Outreach Coordinator/Communications Representative/NISCII; Nancy Green - Business Manager, FAA.; and Richard Keel - Technical Support, Capstone Office/NISCII).

### **Operational Status Update – Ray Collins, Operations Manager**

Juneau Tower Displays: Two displays are operational in the JNU Air Traffic Control Tower. These displays provide enhanced situational awareness for the tower local controllers and the controller's report they are pleased with the equipment.-

Juneau AFSS Displays: FAA Implementation (ANI) is working on completing the equipment installation for enhanced local airport advisories from the Juneau Flight Service Station. They have an estimated completion date of December 14, 2006.

Chelton 6.0 Software: Capstone is continuing to track the status of the Chelton 6.0 software update. SOI #2 has been combined with SOI #3. Chelton advised on November 7, 2006, that they are actually a little ahead of schedule for the April 15, 2007, release date.

Garmin GDL-90: August Asay briefed on the status of the Garmin GDL 90. Garmin had an issue with their WAAS/GPS engine and had to go back and perform re-certification work on their navigator. This brought about removal of TSO approval for that unit. Garmin applied for a deviation. That deviation was coordinated in Washington, D.C., and granted. The equipment was then re-certified. From an ADS-B standpoint there was no impact; however, there was an impact to the GNS-480. That system is no longer certified as a primary means of navigation; only as a supplemental IFR means of navigation. Garmin has issued a Service Bulletin to address the issue, and GNS-480 owners should have received notice from Garmin. Sue Gardner added that none of the Capstone equipped IFR operators were using GNS-480.

FAA Industry Training Standard (FITS) Pilot Training: This training is being developed to aid pilots operating technically advance aircraft, i.e., Capstone equipped. The syllabus has been reviewed and accepted by AFS-800. The package is currently at the Anchorage FSDO for their review/acceptance.

FITS Like Maintenance Training: This is scenario based training for maintenance of Capstone equipped aircraft. UAA anticipates delivery in March 2007. Lessons learned from ongoing maintenance training in SE AK are being incorporated.

National Center for Aircraft Technician Training (NCATT): Curriculum is completed and approved. JRC approval required prior start of the first class. This training is to prepare installers and maintainers for Capstone Phase 3 activities.

ADS-B Expansion: Lari Belisle advised there have been no changes/dates established concerning expansion of ADS-B ATC surveillance services beyond the Bethel area. He anticipates more information by the end of December.

Maintenance Training: Complete at Ketchikan and Juneau. Sitka is scheduled for November 13, 2006, and Cordova will be scheduled shortly after that.

SE AK Helicopter Installs: Six helicopter installations have been completed in Juneau and two are in progress. The total completed this year will be 28. Coordination is in progress for an additional Ten fixed-wing installations.

### **Technical Status Update**

Walter Combs presented the Technical Status Update on behalf of Mark Olson. Mark was in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, at the Arctic Aviation Experts Conference. This conference is co-sponsored by The Institute of the North, LPS Aviation of Ottawa, and the Government of Manitoba. Sue Gardner went over the panel (Leonard Kirk, UAA, Chris Moody, MITRE, Worth Kirkman, MITRE) that is representing Capstone in Winnipeg, and the unique outreach opportunity Mark's attendance and presentation gave the Capstone Program on an international level.

Walter reported that the Cape Newenham ground station is currently out of service due to wind damage and would be a long-term repair project. No FIS-B or Operator Flight Monitoring (OFM) services are currently being provided from this site. The status of the remaining nine sites has not changed since the last update: five sites are providing AT surveillance as well as FIS-B uplink and OFM, and the remaining sites providing FIS-B and OFM.

In Southeast Alaska, Capstone has completed seven of the Phase II sites: Haines, Gustavas, Lena Point, Juneau, and Sisters Island, Yakutat and Biorka Islands. All are currently providing ADS-B data to ZAN and are providing FIS-B uplink and some levels of OFM in those areas.

Construction and the electronic installations at Cape Spenser, Wrangell, Angoon, and Gunnuk Mountain are complete and ready for final inspection. A meeting with the Surveillance Broadcast Services (SBS) Program Office was held the week of October 30, 2006, resulting in an agreement to support final inspections and to complete the processes necessary to make these sites operational and to provide FIS-B uplink and OFM services. CPO Technical Support staff will be traveling to those sites in the near future to conduct the final inspections. The Program Office is working to make these sites operational by January or early February 2007.

Construction and electronic installation is complete at Sunnahae Mountain. The CPO is awaiting completion of the AT&T microwave paths and data circuits. Completion outlook is February or March 2007.

Construction is complete at High Mountain. The buildings are in-place, fuel systems are in, and power is up. Electronic installation is started and completion is dependant upon weather. Walter reported that Capstone could have this site providing data sometime before February 2007.

Environmental issues continue to be worked at Port Alexander with the Forrest Service and the local residents there. The outlook is a property lease obtained in May for that site, with a construction start date in June 2007.

Phase III development for 2007 and 2008 is completely dependant upon the JRC Final Investment Decision. At this time, Capstone has work in the engineering area that is ongoing. Tech Team is ready to start construction upon approval of the JRC. The RCO schedule for FY 09/10 is again dependant on JRC.

Walter concluded his presentation with a slide show depicting the difficulties of getting some of the high sites up and operating efficiently.

### **Round Table**

A comment was received concerning all of the construction in progress at Dead Horse. Sue Gardner relayed that the expectation is for a lot of growth there in the Air Traffic area.

### **Conclusion and Next Meeting**

The Capstone Industry Council meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 6, 2006, at the State DOT building, at Lake Hood (usual location).